

Notice of Rule Making

Pursuant to Act 416 of 1977, Section 7 of Act 280 of 1939, the Administrator of the Child Care Licensing Unit, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, hereby issues the following proposed changes to the Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers, Child Care Family Homes and Registered Child Care Family Homes under the Child Care Licensing Act, Arkansas Code Annotated 20-78-220, as amended.

Effective for date of service on January 1, 2005, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Child Care Licensing Unit, proposes the following:

1. A pre-application consultation meeting shall be required for all applicants for a license/registration. The meeting shall be offered within 30 days of the receipt of an application. (centers and homes)
2. Following the revocation of a license/registration, parties related to the license holder shall not be eligible to apply for a license for a period of one year or longer. (centers and homes)
3. The license holder shall provide a list of the Kindergarten Readiness Skills to the parents of all three and four year olds enrolled. (centers and homes)
4. When transporting children the driver or a staff member who conducts the walk through inspection of the vehicle must sign the transportation roster. (centers and homes)
5. Transportation rosters shall be kept by the facility for one year. (centers and homes)
6. Staff/child ratios may be exceeded momentarily for ages 2 ½ and above as long as children are never left alone. (centers)
7. The licensee shall notify the Licensing Unit of any change in the person named as director within five calendar days. (centers)
8. Children, ages five and up, may use the outdoor play area without the caregiver being present as long as the caregiver visually observes the children at least every five minutes and remains in a section of the home where he/she can hear and see the children and reach them quickly in case of an emergency. (homes)
9. The caregiver shall not leave children unattended in the kitchen while any cooking is occurring. Ironing shall not occur in the presence of children. (homes)
10. The caregiver shall remain awake at all times children are in care unless an alternative compliance request is approved. (evening and night care in homes)
11. Home caregivers shall limit their hours of care to a maximum of 18 hours per day unless an alternative compliance request is approved. (homes)
12. Newly licensed homes or homes requesting an increase in the license capacity shall provide verification that they meet any applicable city zoning or other city requirements, to become effective July 1, 2006. (homes)
13. Newly licensed/registered home providers shall attend Family Child Care Orientation Training within the first six months of being licensed. (homes)

14. The licensee/registrant shall notify the Licensing Unit within five calendar days of any change in the person designated as secondary caregiver. (homes)

The proposed changes are available for review at the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, 1st floor, Donaghey Plaza South, 7th and Main Streets, P.O. Box 1437, Slot S150, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437. All comments must be submitted in writing no later than September 21, 2004.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact our American with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 501-682-1461 (voice) or 501-682-6789.

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